

The GRANGE

Issue: 71

January

1998

IT'S A NEW YEAR

Jenny is a warm, caring, intelligent professional who has worked well with volunteers in her previous work experiences and who herself is a volunteer in the community.

Jenny is assuming a new staff position at The Grange and will be working with volunteers and staff to develop new educational thrusts, to design and implement new programming and materials and to be responsible for conservation. She will report to Dennis Reid, Senior Curator, Canadian Art. We look forward to Jenny's input, creativity and leadership.

Do mark your new 1998 calendars for the third Tuesday of the month (except for March which will be the fourth) for our Volunteer Dinners. Helvi Hunter has lined up a stimulating group of speakers. Jane Ash and Sally Lowrey are planning great meals. These evenings are planned for you no matter what your level of experience in interpreting The Grange. Where else in Toronto can you enjoy a meal for \$5.00, be historically challenged and spend time with a great group of people? See you there.

- Flo Morson, Chair

RESEARCH RE - CAP.... APPLES

Last year we were debating whether the McIntosh apple was old enough to be displayed at The Grange. In the spring of 1997 an article in *The Beaver* told the story of John McIntosh finding, in 1811, seedlings which developed into our famous, McIntosh apple. Later, in 1997 an article on *Early Gardens* by Pleasance Crawford surfaced in which she quotes from William Custard's Toronto

Nursery catalogue of 1827 listing many varieties of apple trees available to the enthusiastic gardener, including Talman's Sweeting, English Codlin and Rhode Island Greening. (A re-print of this article is now one of the Volunteer Reading booklets in The Grange Library) (Another article by Pleasance published in *The Canadian Collector*, 1984, will be re-issued in connection with Art in Bloom in April 1998. More on Art in Bloom in our next newsletter.

STRANGE FACTS AND CO-INCIDENCES

As we all know, Margery Boulton, the last English Boulton, died recently. Apart from her financial generosity, she left us several books, among which were the three novels of Susan Ferrier.

Susan Ferrier (1782-1854) was a respected author in her day, compared favourably to Jane Austen. Margery claimed Susan as a family member, however the connection was through Susan's sister Jane who married Sir Samuel Graham. Two of their granddaughters married Boultons, Caroline married William Somerville, son of the Reverend William, and Jane married Forster, son of James, and Margery's grandfather.

Here's where the co-incidences come in. Susan's and Jane's father enjoyed the patronage of the fifth Duke of Argyll and Lady Charlotte, the Duke's daughter, was a life long friend of both women. At a street fair in London, England in the summer of 1996, I found a book, *A Journey to Florence in 1817*. It is a diary written by Lady Charlotte's 14 year old daughter, Harriet. The diary written in 1817 had been found on the floor of a book shop in the Charing Cross Road, and was published in 1951. Where it had been in the previous 130 years no one knows. Then it found its way to a second-hand book stall outside Festival Hall and was bought by a "Granger" in 1996.

Incidentally, my grandson talked the stall owner into letting me have the book for £2 - it was marked £3.50 !

If anyone wants to borrow the diary, please let me know.

- Avril Stringer, Research, The Grange

**The Grange
Volunteer Committee
1997-98**

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REMINDER

Please submit your news articles
for the next

Grange Newsletter by

MARCH 1st, 1998.

COMING EVENTS

VOLUNTEER TRAINING SUPPERS

Date: Tuesday, January 20, 1998 at 5:30 p.m.

Speaker: Jane Beecroft

Topic: *Toronto's Beginnings on the Humber*

Date: Tuesday, February 17, 1998 at 5:30 p.m.

Speaker: Helen Skinner

Topic: *Did Cleopatra Pick Flowers*

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 1998 at 5:30 p.m.

Speaker: Ron Brown

Topic: *Toronto's Lost Villages*

ANNUAL BUS TRIP

Date: May 5, 1998

Ghost Towns and Other Things

For more information see bulletin board and/or call Helvi Hunter.

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEMBERS' EVENTS

Start the New Year right by joining the lively discussions and tours on the theme: THE TURN OF THE CENTURIES. Life and art in the period around a century will be compared and contrasted with what is happening today. Meet in Weston Hall

Date: Thursday, January 15, 1998 at 1:30 p.m.

Seventeenth century

Date: Thursday, February 19, 1998 at 1:30 p.m.

Eighteenth century

Date: Thursday, March 19, 1998 at 1:30 p.m.

Nineteenth century

Date: Thursday, April 16, 1998 at 1:30 p.m.

Twentieth century

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE GENERAL MEETING

Date: Monday, January 26, 1998 at 10:00 a.m.

Speakers: Matthew Teitelbaum, Chief Curator, AGO

Peter Kaellgren, Curator of Decorative Arts, ROM

Topic: Triumphs and tribulations of organizing a major exhibition. They will focus on the Courtauld exhibition which is coming to the AGO and the Victorian exhibition coming to the ROM this spring from the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

Lunch: \$15.00 in the Members' Lounge (please R.S.V.P to ext. 460)

Following lunch, there will be a curatorial tour led by Joy Tyndal.

BITS and PIECES

Grange volunteers were very much present at the **Volunteer Town Hall Meetings** and took their turn at the mike. Chair, Flo Morson summed up the feelings of the volunteers when she stated that Grange volunteers don't want certificates of service or year buttons - they want the Gallery to recognize their work by improving signage to The Grange. Starting this month, five committees are meeting to work on the suggestions and recommendations from the meetings. They will report to the Advisory Council of the Volunteer Committee and the Volunteer Committee Executive early in February, 1998.

Scott James has been appointed to The Grange Council. He is the former Managing Director of the Toronto Historical Board. Prior to that he worked for the City of Toronto Archives and was responsible for setting up the Market Gallery. He is also a neighbour - living on Beverley Street.

There is nothing new to report on the **Margery Florence Boulton** bequest; however, we do know that The Grange will benefit by something in the order of £ 48,750. Avril Stringer is preparing a biography of Ms. Boulton.

Thank you's to Joan Watson for overseeing the installation of the Christmas decoration and to her beautiful faux food on the Christmas table. Joan, with the help of Al De Matos, Beatrice Calendino and the Junior Committee twice put up and twice took down the cedar boughs. If that wasn't enough, she made all the beautiful "faux" food. We now have a collection of a moulded pudding, two tarts, plates of shortbread, cookies and marzipan candies - all in plaster of Paris and all magnificent. Thanks also to Jane Heinemann, Nancy Lofft and Jane Carruthers who decorated tables in the dining room and morning room for the holiday season.

The **Heritage Showcase** at the Scarborough Town Centre will be on February 20, 21 and 22, 1998. The Fashion Show will be on Saturday, February 21 and Sunday, February 22 during the afternoon. Diane Reid, a Grange Sunday volunteer, will be coordinating this event.

On December 2, 1997, the day after The Grange was decorated for Christmas, we hosted a tour for **two delightful guests** of AGO Director, Maxwell Anderson. They were Anne Marie Mineur, wife of the Consul General of Belgium and Martine Caron, wife of Belgium's Minister of Finance. Anne Marie told Elizabeth Chish-Graham that she has visited The Grange on other occasions, loved the house and wanted her friend to see it. They signed our guest book and were both presented with copies of The Grange booklets as souvenirs of their visit.

Please remember that the servants in nineteenth-century Toronto did not wear make-up or jewellery.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Al De Matos

Thursday volunteer, Al DeMatos was born on the Island of Madeira in Portugal. In November of 1967 he came to Canada with his parents and two older brothers. Al attended primary and secondary school in Toronto. At George Brown Community College, Toronto, he studied food preparation courses.

Al is entering his fourth year as a volunteer at The Grange. During that time he has been very active. He cooks for the Thursday team. Al helps with school tours and assists with the Daily Pursuits programme as a cook. He also helps with the volunteer enrichment evenings, Dessert and Discourse (Toronto Talks) lectures, Christmas Musicales, Open Houses for the AGO, AGO Education Department Christmas parties and Christmas decorating of The Grange.

Al has attended the Cook's Refresher courses at The Grange and at Gibson House. He is now able to make shortbread, Welsh cakes, gingerbread and, most of all, The Grange bread. Al calculates that at the end of 1997 he will have baked approximately 1000 loaves of bread.

Besides volunteering at The Grange, Al is interested in cycling, ice skating, hockey, writing poetry and travelling. In 1995 Al was able to visit his home in Madeira and in 1997 he went to Florida.

Al is a tremendous asset to The Grange. He is always willing to help. He is wonderful with children and teenagers. He has received many compliments from visitors who are impressed with his friendliness and enthusiasm. The Thursday team are delighted to have him.

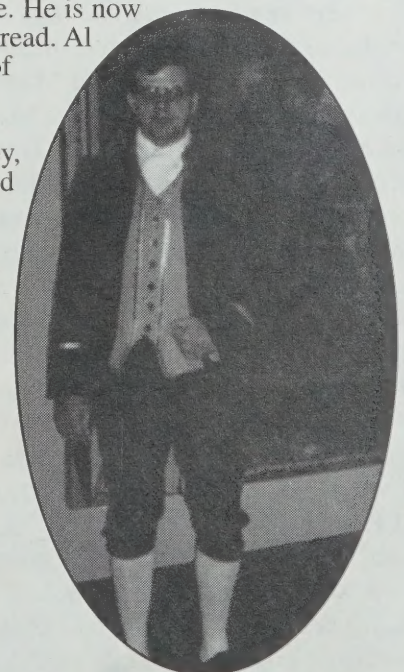
- June O'Brien

About The Grange ...

*After more than three & a half years, as a volunteer,
Helping to bake bread, each Thursday, gives me "cheer".*

*The best part, is greeting hundreds, from here & there,
In fact, as distant as Australia ...or anywhere.*

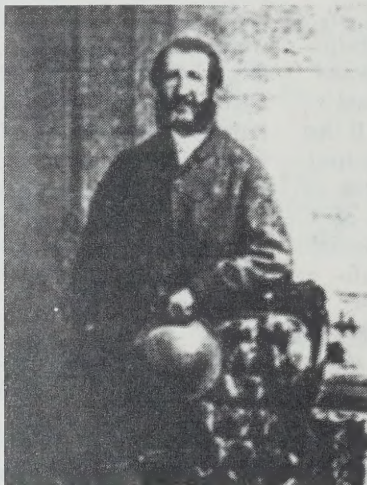
*However - the nicest aspect, of assisting at The Grange - weekly,
Must be those wonderful co-volunteers, who are so nice to me!*
poetry by Al De Matos



Faces of William Henry

In January 1996 I gave my opinion, adequately supported I hope, that William Henry's Waste Book, in the Anteroom Museum was a schoolboy's exercise book. (I consider this book to be one of our greatest treasures.)

William Henry at 16, we have to imagine. William Henry at 35 we have in the Hall. William Henry around 60 is pictured below.



Known as "good Old Bill Boulton", William was popular with the public. Within the family however, he was little trusted, Sarah Anne left The Grange to Harriet and Harriet's father's will made sure William Henry could not touch her money. Obviously a complex character our William Henry, what a pity we do not know him better.

Jennifer Rieger

Jenny Rieger, our new staff person, comes to us from Mackenzie House where she was an interpreter / educator (part-time) and did freelance museum consulting. She received her honours BA and Masters from York University in Fine Arts and her Masters of Museum Studies from the University of Toronto.

At Mackenzie House, she taught school programs; designed and implemented new programs; worked as a printer in the 19th century print shop; did research on nineteenth century Toronto social and political history; designed a Printer's Training Manual, a self-guided house tour booklet, two school programs on newspapers, a rebellion program and a program on labour history.

As a free lance consultant, Jenny has worked for the Toronto Historical Board, the Bata Shoe Museum, McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Campbell House and Historic Fort York.

She has curated several exhibitions, conducted numerous workshops and published articles.

Jenny is married to John and they have two children, Katie (age 15) and Michael (age 12).

From the

KINGSTON CHRONICLE 1826

YORK - BOARDING SCHOOL - UPPER CANADA

Under the Patronage of Lady Sarah Maitland.

MISS PURCELL and MISS ROSE respectfully inform their friends and the public that their school will re-commence on Wednesday, 6th September. They also beg leave to say, that a lady of the first respectability is to join their establishment, who will teach the FRENCH LANGUAGE, and DRAWING besides several other Branches, in the first style. they have also engaged a first rate Professor of dancing from Montreal.

August 26, 1826

SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES, KINGSTON

MR. & MRS. TWIGG beg leave to return thanks for the liberal encouragement which they have received, and to acquaint their friends and the public, that they continue to receive BOARDERS & DAY PUPILS, at their house in Quarry Street, where the following branches are as usual taught:

English and French Languages - Grammatically
History, Geography,
Composition, Music,
Drawing, Dancing,
Needlework,
Writing and Arithmetic

From Mrs. Twigg's long experience, and the credentials she has brought with her (she having for many years conducted a similar establishment in her native country). They hope for a continuance of that support which they shall make it their study to merit.

Reference may be made to:

the Rev. Archdeacon Stuart, and

The Rev. John Barclay (Minister of St. Andrew's Church, Kingston, d. Sept. 26)

Each young lady to bring her bed, etc. etc., two pairs of sheets and six towels.

August 18th, 1826

(This ad also appeared in 1827, 1828, and 1829)